

Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A method of managing electronic mail (email) messages in an email account, the method comprising:
  - displaying to a user a first open email message on a display screen of a device;
  - while displaying the first open email message to the user, detecting an intent of the user to perform an action that results in closing the first open email message;
  - presenting the user, in automatic response to detecting the intent of the user to perform an action that results in closing the first email message, a plurality of deletion options from which the user selects one deletion option before the action can be completed;
  - receiving from the user a selection of one of the deletion options;
  - ~~and~~
  - in automatic response to receiving the selection from the user, completing the action that results in closing the first email message and setting a deletion criterion for a particular email message based on the selected deletion option;
  - displaying a mailbox view listing a plurality of email messages, and providing a deletion indicator for each email message in the mailbox view marked for deletion; and
  - activating the deletion indicator for one of the email messages to display deletion criterion associated with that email message.
2. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the particular email message for which the deletion criterion is set is the first email message and the action is to close the first email message.

3. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the action is to send the first email message to another email user and the particular email message for which the deletion criterion is set is a copy of the sent first email message.

4. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein setting the deletion criterion for the particular email message includes associating deletion of the particular email message to an occurrence of a scheduled item.

5. (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein the scheduled item is an appointment in a calendar.

6. (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein the scheduled item is a task in a task list.

7. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein setting the deletion criterion for the particular email message includes scheduling deletion of the particular email message at a specified time.

8. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising prompting the user for confirmation before deleting the particular email message based on the deletion criterion.

9. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising defining by the user each deletion option to be presented.

10. – 39. (Canceled)